

REMARKS

Applicants Attorney would like to thank the Examiner for her time on May 30, 2006, where the amendment to Claim 5 and the new dependent claims were discussed. The amendment to Claim 5 does not effect the reasons for allowance set forth in the Final Office Action. Claim 5, and the dependent claims therefrom remain allowable.

Claims 2-10 and 22-31 are pending in the present Application. Claims 7 – 9, 22 – 27, 30, and 31, have been cancelled, Claims 5 and 29, have been amended, and Claims 2 – 6, 10, 28, and 29 have been allowed. The Specification has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Claim 5 has been amended to remove an unnecessary limitation.

Claim 29 has been amended to provide proper antecedent basis. Support for this amendment can at least be found in Claim 1 as originally filed.

Claims 32 and 33 have been added to further claim the present invention. Support for these claims can be found in Claim 1 as originally filed as well as in Paragraphs [0017] and [0027].

No new matter has been introduced by these amendments and new claims. The amendments and new claims do not increase the number of claims and still meet the examiner's reasons for allowance, hence, entrance of the amendments are respectfully requested. Additionally, reconsideration and allowance of the case are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 24, 26, 27, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claims 24, 26, and 27 have been cancelled, and 29 has been amended to change "electrode" to "electrode layer", consistent with the independent claims and as originally submitted in Claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 7, 8, 22-25, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,844,286 to Kohler et al. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claims 9, 26, 27, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,844,286 to Kohler et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,702,755 to Mussell. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and contend that the claims are allowable in view of the references of record. However, in order to facilitate issuance of the allowed claims, Claims 1 – 9, 22 – 27, 30, and 31 have been cancelled, thereby rendering these rejections moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

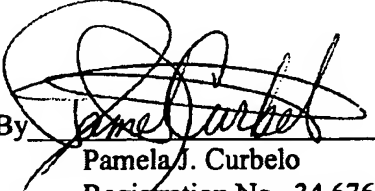
Claims 2-6, 10, 28, and 29 are allowed.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Final Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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